STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

- Do Not Willedon 1. (Previously Presented) A method of testing at least a first cork stopper and a second cork stopper for the presence of an analyte that causes cork taint in wine, comprising the steps of:
 - a) moving the first cork stopper to a first position;
 - b) moving a first sensor to a second position proximate said first position, said first sensor being operatively configured to detect the presence of the analyte;
 - c) determining via said first sensor whether the analyte is present in/on the first cork stopper,
 - d) moving the first cork stopper out of said first position;
 - e) moving said first sensor out of said second position;
 - f) moving a second cork stopper into said first position;
 - g) moving a second sensor to said second position, said second sensor operatively configured to detect the presence of the analyte; and
 - h) determined via said second sensor whether the analyte is present in/on the second cork stopper.
- 2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of providing a plurality of batches of cork stoppers and testing each and every cork stopper in said plurality of batches in the manner of steps a)-h).
- 3. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the analyte comprises TCA.
- 4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein each of said first and second sensors is an electronic nose operatively configured to sense TCA.
- 5. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein step c includes moving a fluid from the first item to the first sensor.

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